

Remarks

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated May 21, 2007; a timely response is due prior to August 21, 2007.

Currently claims 1-4, 6-9, 11, 13-15, and 26-28 are pending in this patent application. The above office action noted that claims 11 and 13-15 are allowed. Claims 1, 2-9 and 26 were noted as being allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112.

In paragraph 3 of the office action it was noted that claim 1 includes both a broad recitation followed by a narrow recitation. Applicant has amended claim 1 and has deleted the narrow recitation "such as solder." Independent claims 2 and 11 were not amended as the "consisting of" language did not appear to present the same issue. If this is not the case, the examiner is asked to call me at the number below to resolve this matter.

With regard to the prior art as applied to claims 27 and 28, these claims were rejected as anticipated by Wier, USP 6095615. The rejection related that in view of the broad recitation of the claim the "dipped coating" is effectively the same as the metal tube of Wier. Applicant has amended claim 27 to exclude a metal tube.

In view of the aforementioned, it is respectfully urged that the present application be reconsidered, the claims allowed, and the case passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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